

It continues funding for the scandalous essential air service that pays to fly empty and near-empty planes across the country;

It continues to throw money at all manner of expensive and failed green energy programs and other forms of corporate welfare.

We are told to be grateful that it doesn't fund other wasteful programs, like high-speed rail. But when we vote for these appropriations, we are responsible for the money that we waste, not the money that we don't waste. The regular order would at least give the House a chance to examine and debate these questionable programs before we cast our vote. But not this process.

But do not believe for a moment they won't be debated after we have cast our votes. This measure will face the full light of public scrutiny in the days ahead, and that may prove to be very harsh, indeed.

□ 1030

True, the measure makes some cuts, but in many cases it makes the wrong cuts.

For example, although this bill reverses the cuts made to disabled military veterans' pensions, it maintains the pension reductions for all other military veterans—about 82 percent of our military retirees. According to published reports, over a 20-year period a retired enlisted servicemember will lose an average of \$72,000 of promised pension payments and commissioned officers will lose \$124,000.

The Payments in Lieu of Taxes, or PILT, is not funded at all. That is the program that makes up a small portion of the revenues that the Federal Government has cost our rural communities as it has appropriated vast tracts of their land.

To add insult to injury, this bill adds roughly \$200 million to pay for more Federal land grabs, which will cost local communities still more of their local revenues and economic activity.

We are promised that PILT funding will be restored in the farm bill, which is little consolation. That is the bill that continues to provide massive subsidies to agribusiness at the expense of both taxpayers and consumers.

I am not unmindful of the challenges that faced the Appropriations Committee—not the least of which is that the measure must ultimately have the consent of the Senate and the President, which are responsible for the most fiscally irresponsible period of our Nation's history. I understand that.

Under our Constitution, a dollar cannot be spent by this government unless the House says it gets spent. The buck literally starts here. As long as we continue to increase spending on frivolous programs at the expense of working families, and at a time when our accumulated debt threatens to sink what is left of our economy, we are clearly moving this Nation in the wrong direction.

I appreciate the fact this is a bipartisan agreement, but a bipartisan agreement that moves our country in the wrong direction is still wrong.

With all due respect, I must dissent.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. EARLEAN LINDSEY: A TRUE COMMUNITY HERO, PRIDE OF THE WEST SIDE OF CHICAGO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a dear friend and colleague who passed away a few days ago.

Trying to describe Earlean Lindsey for me is not very easy. She was not quite old enough to have been my mother, although she was "mother like." She was like a big sister. She and Nola Bright would look after me at conferences and conventions, make sure that I ate lunch, had some milk, and did not drink too much alcohol.

I got to know her family, her children, and grandchildren. I want to thank them for inviting me to participate in her funeral services. They know that Earlean and I were confidants; we were like family.

She was my boss for about 15 years during a period when I worked formally as executive director of the Westside Health Planning Organization. She was the board chairman. She was my running buddy and traveling companion. We went all over the United States of America helping to organize and implement program concepts and initiatives of the war on poverty, which grew out of the civil rights movement—the marches, the demonstrations, the Johnson era.

She was with Ernie and Gloria Jenkins, Ma Fletcher, Reverend Carter, Bertram Mims, Leahmon Reed, Hats Adams, John Harris, Joseph Rosen, Warner Saunders, and others when we organized the Westside Association for Community Action.

Earlean was steeped in her church, her family. She believed in God and in education. Earlean was the education leader for what in the mid-seventies and eighties we called District 8 and District 9 in Chicago. In a way, she was responsible for a Black West Side resident being appointed to the Chicago Board of Education.

Earlean was one of several Black women on the West Side that we called our leaders, women like Illinois Daggett; Rachael Ridley; Beatrice Ward; Ida Mae "Ma" Fletcher; Mary Alice "Ma" Henry; Nancy Jefferson, who headed the Midwest Community Council; Julia Fairfax; Brenetta Howell Barrett; Gloria Pughsley; Belle Whaley; Rose Marie Love; Rosie Lee Betts; Lucy Jean Lewis; Vivian Stewart Tyler; Reverend Janice Sharpe; Reverend Helen Cooper; Martha Marshall; Commissioner Earlean Collins; Congresswoman Cardiss Collins; Alder-

women Deborah Graham and Emma Mitts; Representative Camille Lilly; Viola Thomas; Senator Patricia Van Pelt; Commissioner Barbara McGowan; Commissioner Iola McGowan; Mrs. Lillian Drummond; Mrs. Juanita Rutues; Mrs. Lucinda Ware; Mrs. Irene Norwood; Representative Annazette Collins; Mrs. Vera Davis; Mrs. Mamie Bone; Mrs. Devera Beverly; Mrs. Artensia Randolph; Senator Kimberly Lightford; Recorder of Deeds Karen Yarborough; Mayor Edwina Perkins of Maywood, Illinois; Ms. Barbara Minor; Mrs. Gus Cunningham; and countless other women who have provided leadership and have been actively involved in the struggle for self-direction, community improvement, and self-determination.

Earlean went to city hall, the State House, and the White House. Through her interactions she walked with kings and queens but never lost the common touch.

Earlean's two main issues were health care and education. She was a founding member of the Mile Square Health Center and the National Association of Community Health Centers.

I remember a meeting we were having at the University of Illinois School of Public Health, and as people introduced themselves or were introduced, they would always be introduced as "doctor" or they would say John Smith, MSW, or Joy Jones, FACHA.

When it came Earlean's time, she said that I am Mrs. Earlean Lindsey, CSTA. There were a group of medical students present. One of them raised their hand and said, could I ask Mrs. Lindsey a question? Earlean said, gladly. She said, can you tell me what your degree stands for, CSTA? I have never heard of that one. Earlean said, common sense, talent, and ambition.

That is who Earlean was and that is what Earlean has always been—strong, talented, compassionate, outspoken, bossy, sensitive, caring, tireless, fearless. Long live the life and long live the legacy of Earlean Lindsey. If she was here right now, I am sure she would join with Representative JIM MCGOVERN and say, don't cut SNAP.

Earlean, may you rest in peace.

RALEIGH HOUSING AUTHORITY/ HUD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HOLDING) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, at a time when the national debt is over \$17 trillion and growing by the second, the government continues to borrow and spend money that we simply do not have. Each day that we do not address this problem, the American people continue to lose faith in Washington's ability to spend their tax dollars wisely.

Mr. Speaker, one of our jobs as Members of Congress is to provide aggressive oversight as to how our tax dollars